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wherein at least one of the source, the surface, and the detector may be moveable to position the regions of interest within the beam.

13. A method for acquiring off-axis X-ray image data for a plurality of regions of interest, comprising the steps of

locating the plurality of regions of interest within a beam of radiation, at least a portion of the beam passing through the regions of interest;

simultaneously detecting the portion of the beam for the plurality of regions of interest and producing a plurality of discrete image data, each of said plurality of discrete image data corresponding to each of the regions of interest;

adjusting the location of the plurality of regions of interest, at least a subset of the plurality of regions of interest remaining within the beam;

repeating the step of simultaneously detecting and producing image data; and

combining image data for at least one region of interest to generate a tomosynthetic image of the region of interest.

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Office Action dated January 15, 2002. A petition for a three-month extension of time and the requisite fee are being submitted herewith. As an initial matter, Applicant notes with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 19.

In Paragraph 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-4, 10, 11, 13, 15-18, 21-25, 31, and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No.